

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the first page of the specification of the above-identified application to identify a prior application of the above-identified application, Application No. 10/182,181, being relied upon under 35 USC § 120 in the above-identified application, and to indicate that this No. 10/182,181 is a National Stage Application under 35 USC § 371 of International (PCT) Application No. PCT/JP00/00507. In addition, the first page of the specification of the above-identified application has been amended to incorporate therein the contents of No. 10/182,181 by reference in their entirety. Noting particularly that the Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.63 submitted in the above-identified application is the same Declaration originally filed in No. 10/182,181, it is respectfully submitted that the present amendments do not add new matter to the application.

Entry of the present amendments, and, subsequent thereto, examination of the above-identified application in due course, are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 503.41877VX1), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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